GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7401
ANSWERED ON:12.05.2000
NEW CHANNEL IN BHOJPURI
TUFANI SAROJ

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce a new channel of Doordarshan in Bhojpuri language;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government have prepared any scheme to encourage the programmes in Bhojpuri language on national channel of Doordarshan;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the adequate time slot is given to such programmes of Bhojpuri language on national channel of Doordarshan; and (g) if so, the time slot given to such programmes of Bhojpuri language during the year 1999, in terms of hours?

Answer

The Minister of State of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and Minister of State of the Department of Disinvestment

(Shri Arun Jaitley)

(a): There is no proposal at present.

(b): As per existing policy of Prasar Bharati, Regional Language Satellite Services arestarted only in respect of languages recognized in the Constitution depending upon availability of resources and other inter- se priorities.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Does not arise.

(e) (f) & (g): National Channel is meant for telecasting programmes mainly in nationallanguage i.e. Hindi. There is no scheme for introducing programmes in any regional language on the National Network of Doordarshan.Accordingly, there is no question of allotting any time slot to any regional language, including Bhojpuri on National Channel of Doordarshan.